

Message Text

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R 121814Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204782

FOR MAGEE FROM SCHMIDT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

- -

1. ECONOMIC COUNCIL. WE TOO WERE DISAPPOINTED BY THE POSTPONEMENT. THE CHAMBER SIMPLY COULD NOT GET ANY OF THE US COUNCIL MEMBERS TO AGREE TO GO, AND WAS HANDICAPPED BY WHAT HAS FURTHER FELT WAS A PAUCITY OF HARD INFORMATION FROM THE BULGARIAN SIDE. I SUSPECT ALSO THAT THE DATES, COMING AT THE START OF THE LABOR DAY WEEK END HERE, DIDN'T HELP EITHER. WE ARE WORKING WITH THE CHAMBER TO TRY TO SALVAGE SOMETHING. BILL LUERS WILL CALL MAY TO URGE HIM TO GO OUT TO BULGARIA TO TALK THINGS OVER, AS YOU RECOMMENDED. WE'LL KEEP YOU POSTED.

2. MFN STUDY. GEORGE TALKED TO STATON ANDERSON AUGUST 11 ABOUT THE PAPER ON MFN HE AND MORSE WROTE FOR THE BULGARIANS. WE DID NOT RECEIVE THE COPY WE WERE PROMISED, CONFIDENTIAL

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BUT ANDERSON SAID HE WOULD SEND US A COPY IMMEDIATELY. THE BULGARIANS RECEIVED THE PAPER ON JULY 25. ON AUGUST 1 THEY REQUESTED THAT MORSE COME TO BULGARIA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. MORSE PLANS TO GO THERE THE WEEK OF AUGUST 21. GEORGE INFORMED ANDERSON OF THE PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED BY THE BULGARIAN US COUNCIL.

3. JOINT AGRICULTURAL STATEMENT. GEORGE HAS GOTTEN USDA TO GO OVER THE BULGARIAN COUNTERDRAFT WITH A FINE-TOOTH COMB AND, AS SOON AS OUR LAWYERS GIVE US THE OK, YOU'LL HAVE A REPLY. IT SHOULD BE EARLY NEXT WEEK.

4. LUERS DEPARTURE. YOU AND THE AMBASSADOR SHOULD BE AWARE THAT WORD HAS RECENTLY COME OUT THAT BILL WILL BE LEAVING US TO BECOME AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA. IT HAS NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED, IS STILL BEING CLOSELY HELD, AND NONE OF THE EE EMBASSIES SEEMS TO KNOW IT AS YET. BILL WILL BE SENDING ALL OUR POSTS A MESSAGE ON THIS BEFORE LONG. CHRISTOPHER

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